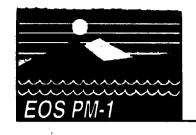
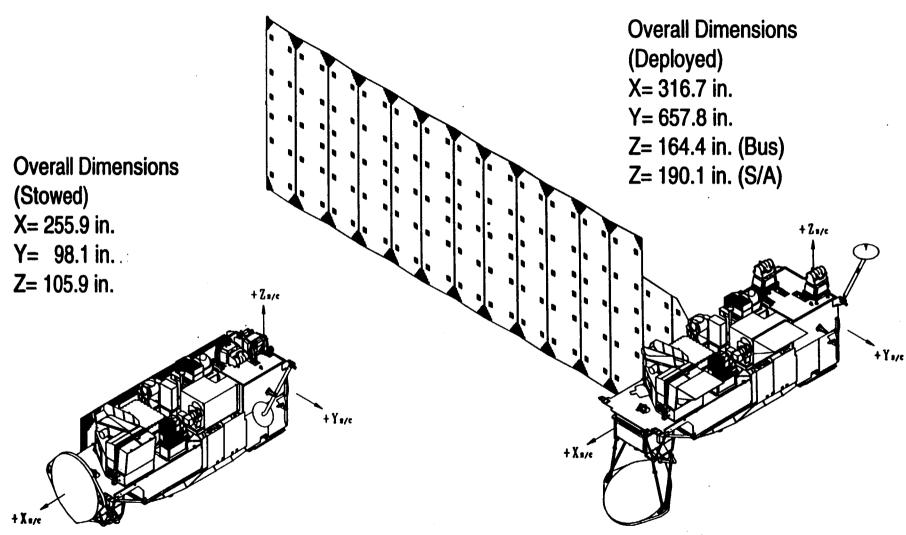


- Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS)
- Advanced Microwave Sounding Unit (AMSU)
- Humidity Sounder for Brazil (HSB)
- Moderate-Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS)
- Clouds and Earth's Radiant Energy Systems (CERES; two instruments)
- Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer (AMSR)



Spacecraft Configuration





- Key products: atmospheric temperature and humidity profiles; land and sea surface temperatures; precipitable water; cloud cover.
- 2,300 channels, 0.4 15.4 micrometers (visible and infrared).
- 13.5 km horizontal resolution at nadir.
- 1 km vertical resolution.
- Marked improvements expected in science products and weather forecasting.

AMSU-A (Advanced Microwave Sounding Unit)

- Intricately coupled with the AIRS.
 - Provides atmospheric temperature measurements from the surface up to 40 km, plus a cloud-filtering capability for tropospheric observations.
- 15 channels, 12 between 50 and 60 GHz, and three at 24, 31, and 89 GHz.
- Spatial resolutions of approximately 40 km at nadir.

H\$B (Humidity Sounder for Brazil)

- Measurements of cloud liquid water, precipitation, integrated precipitable water.
- Needed for obtaining accurate humidity profiles under overcast conditions.
- Four channels: one at 150 GHz, three at 183.31 GHz.
- 13.5-km horizontal resolution (at nadir).
- Needed to complete the AIRS/AMSU-A/HSB triad as a prototype operational system for NOAA.

AMSR-E

- All-weather, day/night, global observations of a variety of surface and atmospheric variables.
- The next step in the ESMR/SMMR/SSMI sequence of satellite passive-microwave radiometers.
- 14 Channels
 - 6.9, 10.7, 18.7, 23.8, 36.5, 89.0 GHz (H, V)
 - 50.3, 52.8 GHz (V).
- Spatial resolutions ranging from 5 km (for the 89 GHz channels) to 60 km (for the 6.9 GHz channels).



- Precipitation; water vapor; cloud liquid water.
- Wind speed over the ocean.
- Sea surface temperature.
- Land surface temperature.
- Sea ice concentration, type, and temperature.
- Continental snow cover.
- Surface soil moisture and vegetation water content.

AIRS Science Team Highlights, FY96/97

- Selection of the Team Algorithm for the AIRS core data products, 6/96.
 - Completion of the first-round ATBDs, 11/96, and presentations to the review panel 3/97.
 - Successful demonstration of the Prototype 5.0 integrated (microwave and IR) retrieval system, including ingest of simulated level 1 data and conversion to levels 1a, 1b, and the level 2 core data products, 3/97.
- Conclusion that the current algorithm meets the 1 K, 1 km requirement under cloudy or clear, day or night conditions, 3/97.
- Level 2 core algorithm update and integration into Prototype 5.0, 4/97.

AMSR-E Science Team Highlights, FY96/97

- Completion of the first-round ATBDs, 11/96, and presentations to the review panel 3/97.
- Development of an AMSR-E data simulator for algorithm testing.
- Intercomparison of two sea ice algorithms, followed by a decision to develop a hybrid algorithm for the AMSR-E sea ice products.
- Refinement of the radiative transfer model used in the calculation of SSTs and above-ocean wind speeds, water vapor, and cloud liquid water.
- Field experiments for soil moisture algorithms in Alabama in 1996 and for snow algorithms in Wisconsin and Wyoming in 1997.

Spacecraft Maneuver: Science Team Positions

🖿 In Favor

- MODIS -- Maneuvers are needed to obtain 0.3-0.5 K SST accuracies.
- CERES -- Maneuvers are needed to avoid lengthy extra data processing (ERBE experience, NOAA 9 versus ERBS).

Opposed

- AMSR -- Each maneuver could result in a two-week data gap.
- AIRS -- Maneuvers could harm the thermal stability of the instrument, etc.